

**VA****U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs**

# News Release

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**VA To Hold Small Business Engagement in Atlanta Next Month***Annual Event to Increase Contract Opportunities for Small Veteran-Owned Businesses*

Washington, DC – The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in collaboration with other federal agencies and partners, will sponsor the 4<sup>th</sup> annual National Veterans Small Business Engagement (NVSBE), December 9-11, 2014, at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Ga.

The premier event for Veteran-Owned Small Businesses, the NVSBE is expected to attract as many as 3,000 attendees offering the chance to learn best practices from federal and commercial procurement decision makers. More than 400 exhibitors and 25 government agencies along with private industry partners, such as Lockheed Martin, Document Storage System, Inc. (DSS) and Boeing, will also participate in the event. The theme of this year's event, *ACCESS*, is focused on promoting and supporting small Veteran-owned business' access to economic opportunity.

"VA is committed to increasing the number of Veteran-owned small businesses," said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. "The NVSBE demonstrates our commitment by offering Veteran business owners the tools they need to thrive in the federal marketplace. We want to do all that we can to help our Veterans be successful."

The Engagement provides numerous opportunities for important relationships to start and thrive.

"One of the greatest challenges for small business owners is to connect with decision makers who can help them grow their businesses," said Thomas J. Leney, Executive Director of VA's Small and Veteran Business Programs. "NVSBE provides small businesses a solution to meet that challenge."

For more information about the 4<sup>th</sup> annual NVSBE, visit [www.nvsbe.com](http://www.nvsbe.com).

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